



Commission on Improving the *Status of Children in Indiana*

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Commission Appoints Executive Director

AUGUST 17, 2017 – The Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana (CISC) appointed Julie Whitman as its first Executive Director. Her appointment takes effect September 11, 2017.

The Commission voted to appoint Ms. Whitman upon recommendation from the CISC Executive Committee. Ms. Whitman currently works as Vice President of Statewide Engagement and Advocacy for the Indiana Youth Institute (IYI). She has been involved in the work of the Commission as the Chairperson of the Data Sharing and Mapping Committee.

As Executive Director, Whitman will provide full-time strategic staff support to the Commission including coordinating among the members, its Executive Committee, and several task forces. Whitman will be responsible for ensuring the execution of the Commission's [strategic plan](#).

Ms. Whitman joined IYI in April of 2010 as the Vice President of Programs, where she has overseen professional education, organizational capacity building, and data and research programs. She previously served as director of special projects at the National Center for Victims of Crime. Whitman has led numerous research projects, provided training and technical assistance, and written federal grants. She has experience collaborating with schools, youth organizations, law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim service providers. Ms. Whitman holds a master of social work degree from Boston College and a bachelor's degree from Harvard University.

Established by Governor Mike Pence in August 2013, the 18-member, multi-branch Commission aims to improve the status of children in Indiana. It studies issues concerning vulnerable youth; reviews and makes recommendations concerning pending legislation; and promotes information sharing and best practices. The Commission's next meeting is November 8.

For more information contact a member of the Commission's Communication Committee: [Jeremy Brilliant](#) (ATG), [Kristin Casper](#) (PDC), [Kathryn Dolan](#) (ISC), [Jim Gavin](#) (FSSA), [Isaac Randolph](#) (DOC), or [James Wide](#) (DCS).